

FEB 20 1922 ✓

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" THE PRODIGAL JUDGE "

Photo^{eight}play in ~~seven~~ reels

Story by Vaughan Kester

Adapted by Edward Jose and John Lynch

Directed by Edward Jose

Author of the Photo^{eight}play (Under Sec. 62)
Vitagraph Company of America, of the U. S.

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"THE PRODIGAL JUDGE"

Author: Vaughn Kester

Director: Edward Jose

Seven Reel Drama

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Synopsis

Judge Slocum Price Turberville, a member of Congress is at the height of his political career, and lives at the Barony, situated in the rugged country of North Carolina, in 1830. General Quintard, his father-in-law, informs him that his wife has taken their child and eloped with David Gatewood. The domestic tragedy ruins Turberville's career, and accompanied by Solomon Mahaffy, an old crony, he becomes a wanderer.

Five years later, the Judge and Mahaffy meet on board a river packet, Bob Yancy and a child known as Hannibal, and Yancy's nephew. Hannibal carries a rifle marked with the name of "Turberville" - this gives the Judge a clue to the identity of the boy, who is his son. On board the vessel are Betty Malroy, owner of a plantation situated near Raleigh, Tennessee, and Bruce Carrington, a river pilot, who is going to Raleigh to become a planter with the help of his friend, Charley Norton.

The packet puts in at Pleasantville, and the Judge and Mahaffy and Yancy and the boy land there. Colonel Fentress, the leader of a band of outlaws who have terrorized the sparsely settled western Tennessee, plots to steal the boy, Hannibal, from Yancy. Yancy is beaten by Slosson and another of Fentress' thugs, and flung into the river. Hannibal escapes the tavern and takes refuge in a skiff. Richard Keppel Cavendish and his family are floating down the river on a house-raft. They pick up Yancy and save his life.

The Judge, in the meantime, has been put in jail on a charge of passing counterfeit bills. ~~with~~ A horse thief, one of Fentress' men has also been arrested. Fentress leads the "night-riders" to the jail and rescues the horse-thief. The judge also escapes. The Judge and Mahaffy find the skiff in which Hannibal lies sleeping and they make their way across the river.

The three vagabonds, the Judge, Mahaffy, and Hannibal, wander westward to Raleigh where they meet Betty Malroy, who had become acquainted with Hannibal on the river packet. At her request, Charley Norton gives the Judge the use of one of his houses in Raleigh. Betty and Charley are married, following their childhood romance, and as they come out of the church Charley is shot and killed. The Judge posts a reward for the discovery of Charley's murderer, and demonstrates his own marksmanship with duelling pistols, which awes the village. Bruce Carrington who had left Raleigh, hears of the murder of his friend and comes back to protect Betty. Betty and Hannibal are taken on board a keel-boat on Fentress' orders. Cavendish's raft bearing Yancy lands at Raleigh and they hurry to Betty's

plantation, where the Judge has taken charge of the search for Betty and the boy. The Judge, aided by Cavendish, draws a confession from Hicks, the overseer; That Fentress has engineered the plot. Bruce with the help of Bess Hicks becomes pilot of the keel-boat after sending word to Cavendish and Yancy to bring their boat down the river and help in the rescue.

The Judge accompanied by Mahaffy calls upon Fentress and the Judge unmasks him as David Gatewood, the man who had stolen his wife. He forces Fentress to a duel. That night, Mahaffy tempts the Judge with whiskey and the Judge fails to keep his appointment. Mahaffy goes to the field of honor in his stead and Fentress kills him. The Judge arrives as Fentress tries to escape; Fentress fires at the Judge and the Judge shoots him from his horse.

Fentress' men on board the keel-boat drive Bruce from the sweep and the boat, without a pilot, swings into the rapids. Yancy and Cavendish speed through the rapids after them. The boat swings in the still water, Fentress' men are put to rout, and Betty and Hannibal rescued.

Judge Slocum Price Turberville regains his lost fortune, and Bruce Carrington wins the promise of marriage from Betty.

LAW OFFICES
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JENIFER BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.
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FEB 20 1922

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Library of Congress,
Washington, D. C.

I herewith respectfully request the return of the following named motion picture films deposited by me for registration of copyright in the name of

Vitagraph Co. of America

THE PRODIGAL JUDGE (6 reels)

Respectfully,

FULTON BRYLAWSKI

The Vitagraph Company of America hereby
acknowledges the receipt of two copies each of the motion
picture films deposited and registered in the Copyright
Office as follows:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date of Deposit</u>	<u>Registration</u>
THE PRODIGAL JUDGE	2/20/22	L: ©CL 17561

16 Copies Returned
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The return of the above copies was requested by the said company, by its agent and attorney, on the 20th day of February, 1922, and the said Fulton Brylawski for himself and as the duly authorized agent and attorney of the said company, hereby acknowledges the delivery to him of said copies and the receipt thereof.

William H. Planch O.K.-A.F.T.
FEB 23 1922

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